

Message Text

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UNCLAS SAO PAULO 1726

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SUBJECT: FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE FOR SAO PAULO STATE EXECUTIVES

SUMARY

SAO PAULO STATE SECRETARY OF TREASURY AND THREE ADVISORS WILL BE ATTENDING IMF MEETING NEXT MONTH AND WILL BE IN WASHINGTON SEPTEMBER 1 THROUGH 8. DURING THEIR STAY TWO OF THE ADVISORS WISH TO STUDY U.S. APPROACHES TO LOW COST URBAN HOUSING, AND THEY HAVE ASKED US TO USE OUR OFFICES TO ARRANGE APPOINTMENTS WITH APPROPRIATE PEOPLE IN U.S. GOVERNMENT AND PERHAPS HOUSING AUTHORITIES AT THE MUNICIPAL AND STATE LEVELS IN THE WASHINGTON AREA. END SUMMARY.

1. THE TWO WHO WILL STUDY LOW COST URBAN HOUSING ARE MESSRS. PETER NADAS AND FERNANDES DA SILVA. NADAS, WHO ATTENDED FAIRLEIGH DICKINSON UNIVERSITY, SPEAKS EXCELLENT ENGLISH. NO INTERPRETOR IS NECESSARY. THEY WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR APPOINTMENTS SEPTEMBER 2 THROUGH 5, THE WORKING DAYS THAT WEEK. THEIR INTERESTS RUN THE GAMUT OF LOW-COST URBAN HOUSING CONSIDERATIONS, FINANCE, MATERIALS, BUILDING CODES, CONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES, AND THE INHERENT SERIOUS SOCIAL PROBLEMS. LOW COST URBAN HOUSING SPECIALISTS AT HUD SEEM TO BE THE MOST LOGICAL POINT OF FIRST CONTACT FOR THEM, PREFERABLY ON SEPTEMBER 2. FROM THERE THEY MIGHT PROFITABLY MEET WITH STATE HOUSING AUTHORITIES IN NEARBY MARYLAND OR VIRGINIA, AND PER

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HAPS WITH NATIONAL LEAGUE OF CITIES REPRESENTATIVES.

2. THE URBAN HOUSING PROBLEM IN SAOPAULO ALONE IS EMMENSE. NADAS ESTIMATES THAT THE CITY NOW LACKS 650,000 LOW COST HOU- SING UNITS, AND THE NUMBER IS INCREASING AT THE RATE OF 40,000 - 50,000 EACH YEAR WITH NO RELIEF IN SIGHT.

3. ANY ASSISTANCE WE CAN GIVE THESE STATE OFFICIALS WILL FUR- THER STRENGTHEN OUR ALREADY EXCELLENT RELATIONS WITH THE STATE GOVERNMENT HERE AND PERHAPS PRROVIDE AN AMERICAN CONTRIBUTION TO THE SOUTION OF WHAT IS ALREADY AN ENOURMOUS SOCIAL AND HUMAN PLOBLEM HERE. MOREOVER, THEIR INTEREST IN AMERICAN APPROCACHES AND CONSTRUCTION METHODS MAY OFFER ENTREE TO AMERICAN FIRMS IN THE BUILDING TRADES FIELD, FROM ARCHITECTS TO SUPPLIERS AND BUILDERS.

4. IN THIS LAST CONNECTION, ONE PROMISING IMMEDIATE RESULT OF THER REQUEST FOR THIS ASSISTANCE IS THEIR OFFER OF LISTS OF PROJECTS FAVORED BY THE SAO PAULO STATE GOVERNMENT FOR WHICH LOCAL ENTERPRISES ARE SEEKING PARTICIPATION OF AMERICAN FIRMS. WE HOPE TO BE WORKING CLOSELY WITH THEM IN THE WEEKS AHEAD TO DEVELOP WHAT MAY BE A RICH SOURCE OF HERETO- FORE UNDISCOVERED TRADE OPPORTUNITIES.

5. BECAUSE TIME IS SHORT WE WOULD APPRECIATE VERY MUCH CONF- MATION OF AT LEAST AN APPOINTMENT FOR THEM WITH HUD FOR THEIR FIRST DAY, SEPTEMBER 2. THE REST OF THEIR APPOINTMENTS COULD BE FIXED AT THAT TIME.

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